

**Washington, DC** - Rep. Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) released the following statements today touting the success of 'Cash for Clunkers'. Braley was a chief sponsor of the original legislation.

"'Cash for Clunkers' was a wildly successful program that strengthened the economy, reduced our dependence on foreign oil and most importantly, helped middle class families save money," Braley said. "Hundreds of thousands of people took advantage of the program, strengthening small businesses around the country and giving a strong and sudden much-needed boost to the economy in Iowa.

"'Cash for Clunkers' was a federal economic stimulus program that worked and worked well for Iowa," Iowa Automobile Dealer's Association General Counsel, Bruce Anderson said. "'Cash for Clunkers' vouchers totaling \$37 million were issued in Iowa, resulting in more than 9,000 new vehicles sold to Iowans. Every one of those vehicles has cleaner emissions and is more fuel efficient than the clunker that it replaced. The program really has been a win-Win-WIN for Iowa automobile dealers and their customers and communities. It was a needed boost at a key time of sluggish sales. It provided the incentive necessary to release the pent-up customer demand for newer, cleaner cars. And it helped preserve and create good jobs in those Iowa Main Street businesses. Iowa's new car dealers are greatly appreciative of Bruce Braley's effective leadership in getting the 'Cash for Clunkers' program enacted and implemented."

Overall, consumers purchased over 700,000 fuel-efficient cars in fewer than 30 days. 85 percent of vehicles traded in were large, gas-guzzling pick-up trucks and SUVs, while 59 percent of vehicles purchased were cars. 'Cash for Clunkers' also improved the average fuel economy by increasing the average mileage by 59 percent.

